

Glenwood Springs and Kremmling Field Offices Resource Management Plan Revisions

What is a Resource Management Plan?

A Resource Management Plan (RMP) provides the overall framework for managing Bureau of Land Management-administered lands. These RMPs will guide management of the approximately 567,000 surface acres and 723,000 subsurface (mineral estate) acres administered by the Glenwood Springs Field Office in Eagle, Garfield, Pitkin, Routt, Mesa and Rio Blanco counties, and approximately 378,000 surface acres and 651,000 subsurface (mineral estate) acres administered by the Kremmling Field Office in Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Larimer, and Summit counties.

Why is BLM conducting a joint-planning effort between two Field Offices?

The two field offices are simultaneously revising their RMPs under one planning effort. The field offices share some of the same challenges and opportunities, and the joint effort allows the field offices to share resources and reduce costs.

What is the Scoping Process?

Scoping is a collaborative public involvement process in which BLM asks the public and other agencies to identify planning issues to be addressed in the planning process. The scoping process began with the publication of a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on March 2, 2007. Scoping comments will be used in drafting the RMP revisions. When the Draft RMP revisions are completed, they will be released for a 90-day public comment period.

What are planning issues and criteria?

Planning issues are disputes or controversies about existing and potential land and resource allocations, levels of resource use, production, special designations (i.e. Special Recreation Management Areas or Areas of Critical Environmental Concern), and related management practices.

Scoping also involves the introduction of preliminary planning criteria to the public for comment. Planning criteria guide development of the plan by helping to define the decision space or sideboards of the planning process. The planning criteria will help us develop a reasonable range of alternatives that are tailored to the issues identified in the scoping process by the public and BLM.

How can I comment?

Scoping comments will be most helpful if BLM receives them by May 2, 2007. For further information or to have your name added to a mailing list, contact Joe Stout, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, at (970) 724-3003, or log on to <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/co/kfo-gsfo>. The mailing list will be used to notify people about the progress of the planning effort as well as additional opportunities for public involvement and comment. The scoping meetings in Gypsum, Carbondale, and Rifle will primarily focus on issues pertaining to lands managed by the Glenwood Springs Field Office, while the meetings in Granby, Kremmling, and Walden will focus mostly on issues on the lands managed by the Kremmling Field Office.

Will my comments be made public?

A scoping report summarizing the comments will be made available in early summer. Comments received will be available for public review at the two field offices. Individuals may request confidentiality with respect to their name, address and phone number by clearly stating in the first line of their comments: "CONFIDENTIALITY REQUESTED."

